

*Commissioners*

**MARISEL A. HERNANDEZ**, *Chair*  
**WILLIAM J. KRESSE**, *Commissioner/Secretary*  
**JONATHAN T. SWAIN**, *Commissioner*  
**LANCE GOUGH**, *Executive Director*



**Board of Election Commissioners for the City of Chicago**  
**Regular Board Meeting**

**February 14, 2019, 9:30 a.m.**

**69 West Washington Street, 8th Floor Conference Room, Chicago, Illinois 60602**

**Board Members:**

Marisel A. Hernandez, Chair  
William J. Kresse, Commissioner/Secretary  
Jonathan T. Swain, Commissioner

**Staff:**

Lance Gough, Executive Director  
Adam W. Lasker, General Counsel  
James P. Allen, Communications Director  
Peter Peso, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
Amanda Robledo, Acting Purchasing Agent  
Myrna Webb, Videographer  
Trish Sheehy

**Guests:**

Bonni McKeown, City Bureau  
Helene Gabelnick, League of Women Voters of Chicago (LWV Chicago)  
C. Betty Magness, Rainbow PUSH Coalition  
Judd Ryan, ES&S  
Colin Smith, City Bureau

- I. Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.
- II. Roll Call: Chair Hernandez and Commissioner Swain were present. Commissioner Kresse was expected shortly after Roll Call. He joined the meeting as the Executive Director's Report was concluding.
- III. Consideration of Agenda: Because of a Court Call and the need for the Board to meet with Board Attorneys in Executive Session before court, Executive Session was moved before Old Business on the agenda, and Public Comment was shifted to after the Communication Director's Report.
- IV. Approval of Minutes
  - A. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of December 11, 2018: Commissioner Swain moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of December 11, 2018. Chair Hernandez seconded the motion. The motion passed and the Minutes were approved by

**2:0 vote of the Board**

**B. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of December 27, 2018: Commissioner Swain moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of December 27, 2018. Chair Hernandez seconded the motion. The motion passed and the Minutes were approved by 2:0 vote of the Board**

**V. Executive Director's Report**

**VI. Executive Director Lance Gough reported as follows:**

- Executive Director Gough brought the following dates to the attention of the Board:
  - The Presidential Election for the nation of Senegal will be held on February 24<sup>th</sup>. As in the past, we will provide space for the conduct of this election, specifically, Lower Level Conference Room A. Mr. Gough has heard from the Senegalese Consulate General in New York that they are most appreciative of this.
  - Representatives from the State of New York will be visiting on February 21<sup>st</sup> to see our Early Voting (EV) sites. They are most interested in our Supersite at 175 W. Washington. Judd Ryan of ES&S, who is their vendor in New York, will be their escort in Chicago. General Counsel Adam Lasker stated that the State of New York has just passed a law allowing for Early Voting.

- The Illinois State Board of Elections (ISBE) come in and conducted an audit of our equipment. The ISBE, along with our staff, conducted logic and accuracy tests, as well as test transmissions from our warehouse to central system. Everything went very well.

Mr. Gough also noted that on Election Day, for the first time, we will have computers in Election Central tied directly to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation) re: cyber security.

We have a booklet showing all of the different items DHS will supply us, what they are looking at, and what they will be doing. FBI will also be here monitoring on Election Day. There will be several people from both DHS and FBI at the Board on Election Day.

- Early Voting (EV) is up and running.
- Mr. Gough requested that a Special Board meeting be scheduled for some time next week, in case anything would come up.
- Commissioner Swain asked if the EV sites will be open later on Monday, February 25<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Gough responded that EV will be open at least until 5 on Monday in order for us to have time to prepare for the next day, Election Day. The EV sites will be open 7 days a week up until Election Day allowing ample time to vote.

**A. Assistant Executive Director's Report**

**Assistant Executive Director Charles Holiday reported as follows:**

- ISBE was very impressed with the operations at the warehouse, at headquarters, and by the IT Department.

- Specimen ballots and new poll sheets are ready.
- Mr. Holiday has been checking with all the departments to make sure that they have what they need and are ready for the election.

Mr. Gough interjected that we are finishing pre-LAT (pre-election logic and accuracy testing) today. Equipment carriers are being delivered as we speak; actually a few days ahead of schedule.

**B. Communications Director's Report**

**Communications Director Jim Allen reported as follows:**

- The Mass mailing is complete, that is, the last file has been delivered to the mailing house.
- Legal notices and promotions for Vote by Mail (VBM) and Early Voting (EV), and the Specimen Ballots are all up to date.
- Early Voting launched earlier this week.
- We are fielding questions from the media about Election Day.
- We are working hard on filling Judge of Election vacancies.

**VII. Public Comment: None**

**VIII. Executive Session: Commissioner Swain moved to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. Commissioner Kresse seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote. The Board entered into Executive Session at 9:40 a.m.**

The Board returned from Executive Session and the Chair called the open session back to order at 10:54 a.m. stating that there was no formal action taken in closed session.

**IX. Old Business**

- A. Infrastructure Projects and Changes in Election Administration:** These matters will be taken up after the election.
- B. Electronic Poll Books:** E-poll books are performing well per Mr. Holiday.
- C. Voting Equipment:** Will resume review after the election.
- D. Legislation:** Mr. Lasker reported that he is compiling a list of proposals to track and will get the list to the Board. He has met with the Speaker's office to try to advance our agenda.

**X. New Business**

**A. Professional Services Agreement between the Chicago Board of Elections and Ronald Boyd.**

Mr. Lasker pointed out that Mr. Boyd has extensive experience in setting up Early Voting and Receiving sites and setting up communications and transmissions for election night. He will continue to set up and test communication systems and set up and testing of e-poll book transmissions and communication systems. The term would be calendar year 2019 specific to the Municipal and any runoff elections. At a rate of \$45.00 per hour not

to exceed \$95,000 over the term of the agreement. The Chair asked if there would be any work after the elections. Mr. Gough state that there would be work after the elections as we will be looking at acquiring new equipment. Mr. Boyd will be writing specifications on how we will implement the new equipment with Early Voting, how it's going to be installed and with the new remote sites.

Commissioner Swain moved to approve the agreement between the Board and Ronald Boyd for the calendar year 2019, at the rate of \$45 per hour – not to exceed \$95,000 over the term of the agreement. Commissioner Kresse seconded the motion. The motion was passed by unanimous vote of the Board.

**B. Approval of Contracts for Cartage of Election Equipment, Geographical Areas for the 2018 Elections in the City of Chicago**

- Mr. Lasker pointed out that contractual agreement is in fact the Invitation for Bid (IFB) document.
- Acting Purchasing Agent Amanda Robledo presented;
  - The Board sent out an Invitation for Bid (IFB) on January 3, 2019 for the cartage of equipment for the Municipal election and run-offs (February and April 2019 elections).
  - Ms. Robledo had worked with General Counsel Adam Lasker and Manager of the Pre-Election Voting and Logistics Department, Clinton Hurde, to administer the IFB and review the responses.
  - Ms. Robledo had reached out to 10 vendors, only 5 replied. Of the 5 replies 2 vendors were the lowest in specific Geographic Areas. The vendors are Pickens Kane and Big "O" Movers.
  - Pickens Kane was the lowest bidder in Areas A, B and D. Big "O" Movers was the lowest bidder in Area C.
  - Upon tabulation of all bids received, Ms. Robledo has determined that the following are the lowest responsive and responsible bidders for the following Geographic Areas:
    - Area A – Pickens Kane
    - Area B – Pickens Kane
    - Area C – Big "O" Movers
    - Area D – Pickens Kane

There was discussion on how the bids were submitted and calculated.

Mr. Gough stated that Pickens Kane (PK) has reached out to minority-owned businesses for drivers.

Mr. Lasker stated that the pricing terms are included in the spreadsheets per unit (based on number of precincts, Early Voting sites and units of equipment within the Area) and the other terms are within the IFB.

The Chair entertained a motion to approve the cartage of voting equipment in accordance with bid tabulation sheets, and that the award would go to Area A, Pickens Kane, Area B, Pickens Kane, Area C, Big “O” Movers and Area D, Pickens Kane, in the amounts set forth in the bid tabulation sheets for each of these cartage companies, for the General Municipal Election and runoff elections for 2019.

Commissioner Kresse made the motion. Commissioner Swain seconded the motion. The motion was approved and the contracts awarded by 3:0 vote of the Board.

Mr. Gough stated that in the future we will put a per site cost in the bids.

**C. Professional Services Agreement between the Chicago Board of Elections and Michael P. Murphy:** Mr. Gough requested, and the Board agreed, to table this item at this time.

**XI. Legal Report**

**XII. General Counsel Adam Lasker reported as follows:**

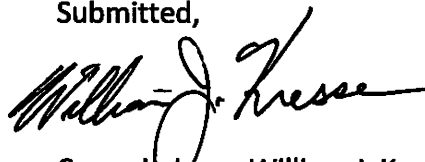
- There were seven cases in which the Board was named for Judicial Review, including:
  - A 20<sup>th</sup> Ward candidate’s case that is still in Circuit Court – briefs are not due until after the February election;
  - Two City Clerk candidates that appealed to the appellate court (the Circuit Court affirmed the CBEC’s decision);
  - A 15<sup>th</sup> Ward case that is in court today;
  - A 29<sup>th</sup> Ward case that has filed in the Appellate Court;
  - A 27<sup>th</sup> Ward case that is up this afternoon.
- Posted notices at EV sites, and will be posted in the booths for in-precinct voting, stating that due to pending court cases, ballots may be subject to change. However, these notices are not included with the Vote by Mail (VBM) ballots, as the majority of VBM ballots were mailed before the court cases began. Commissioner Swain stated that the notices received by VBM voters should be consistent with notices that a voter would see in the precinct polling place, and that going forward a notice should be included in the VBM mailings.
- Accessibility: we will be meeting again with the Department of Justice (DoJ), and we have meeting scheduled with City department heads and the DoJ.
- Mr. Holiday raised a concern about a particular write-in candidate who filed as a write-in candidate in every ward, but with some variations in his name in some cases. Mr. Lasker explained that the Board’s only responsibility is to provide a list of write-in candidates to the Judges of Election so that they know which write-in votes to count in the precinct. Mr. Allen recommended, and the Board concurred, that we only use the first version of the candidate’s name on the various write-in candidate listings.

**XIII. Financial Report: None**

(Mr. Lasker reported that he just received notice that in the Williams (15th ward) case, the Circuit Court just affirmed the Board's decision, but there may still be an appeal.)

**XIV. Adjournment: Commissioner Swain moved to adjourn until a Special Board Meeting on Tuesday, February 19th. Commissioner Kresse seconded the motion. The motion was passed by unanimous vote of the Board. The Board adjourned at 11:17 a.m.**

Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William J. Kresse", written in a cursive style.

Commissioner William J. Kresse  
Secretary